Robert N Andersen* (andersrn@uwec.edu), Department of Mathematics, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, Eau Claire, WI 54701, and Simei Tong (tongs@uwec.edu), Department of Mathematics, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, Eau Claire, WI 54701. Engaging Students in On-Line Course Learning. Preliminary report.

We taught our first On-Line course during the summer of 2005. We will explain the process, materials and computer programs we used to design, prepare, implement and assess our course to achieve our goal of engaging student learning.

The preparation for the course involved writing an on-line text, writing worksheets that directed the students’ activities, and constructing question bank for student homework and quiz assignments. A detailed calendar with reading assignments, homework assignments and due time was designed to engage the students’ daily activities.

The On-Line platform was the program Desire2Learn which provided an interactive community of students and instructors. Through the discussion room in D2L students could ask and answer questions. This created a student centered learning environment that resulted in more student interaction than is often seen in traditional lecture courses.

Skill developing homework and quizzes was done through the program Maple TA. This program generates unique questions and gives immediate feedback to the students’ answers. We will discuss the process of programming MTA to construct questions which encourage active and critical thinking.

We conclude that engaging student learning is a key to have a successful on-line course. (Received August 31, 2005)